GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1985
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004
UNIFIED LICENSING POLICY
Satpathy Shri Tathagata

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the TRAI has prepared any draft proposal for unified licensing policy in the telecom sector;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the extent to which the consumers are likely to be benefited as a result thereof; and

(d) the time by which the policy is likely to be implemented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b) The TRAI has issued Consultation Paper on Unified Licensing Regime on 13th March, 2004 inviting the comments of the various Stake Holders including following:

1. Frame work of Unified Licensing Regime.
2. Registration Charges/Entry Fee/Authorisation Charges.
3. Service Area in Unified Licensing Regime.
4. License Fee
5. Bank Guarantees.
6. Roll out obligations.
7. Interconnections
8. Numbering
9. Inter-Circle connectivity and Infrastructure Sharing : licencing aspects.
10. Reselling
11. Other issues.

(c) According to TRAI, proposed Unified Licensing Regime shall result in better (existing & new) services being available to the consumers at affordable tariffs as well as expected to promote competition and facilitate penetration of telecom services in backwards areas from teldcom point of view.

(d) As TRAI has not submitted its recommendations so far to the Government, it is not possible to estimate the time frame by which policy is likely to be implemented.